804 Collaboration in Managing Litigation: Lessons of the First Five Years

James P. Barry  
*Senior Counsel-Litigation*  
International Paper Company

Michael P. Curreri  
*Senior Vice President*  
TyMetrix, Inc.

Julie A. Lepri  
*Senior Vice President, Litigation Practice Group Head*  
Bank One, NA

Melissa R. Margulies  
*Litigation Counsel*  
Quest Diagnostics Incorporated
Faculty Biographies

James P. Barry

James P. Barry is senior counsel litigation for International Paper Company.

Prior to International Paper, he was assistant general counsel at Union Camp Corporation. Prior to that, Mr. Barry was special counsel to Jones, Walker in Baton Rouge, LA, practicing environmental/toxic tort litigation. He came to Jones Walker from Mobil Corporation where he was the team lead for the environmental litigation group. While at Mobil, he also served as counsel to the marketing and refining division and the mining and minerals division. He came to Mobil following three years as corporate counsel for the United Company. Prior to that he was an associate at Penn Stuart with a litigation practice.

Mr. Barry graduated from the College of William and Mary with honors and received his JD from the University of Richmond.

Michael P. Curreri

Michael P. Curreri is senior vice president for TyMetrix, and is responsible for the design and implementation of “CynOps,” the company’s web-based collaborative matter management system, and all of its integration into clients’ mission-critical applications of legal commerce, e-billing, and document management systems. He is also responsible for the development and execution of collaborative networking for the many communities of interest within TyMetrix.

As founder and president of TrialNet, he developed a series of networks with thousands of lawyers participating on behalf of their on-line clients. As a principal in the national litigation firm of Wright, Robinson, Osthimer & Tatum, Mr. Curreri’s practice focused on civil litigation and litigation management involving products liability and medical malpractice. He was the founder of his firm’s Richmond office medical malpractice section, which became the largest such practice in the state prior to his departure from active practice. While at TrialNet, Mr. Curreri also started another successful internet company, WorkNETT, which provides on-line compliance training to employers and employees.

Mr. Curreri is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, where he focused on computer applications. He received his JD cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and an LLM magna cum laude from George Washington University.

Julie A. Lepri

Julie A. Lepri is the litigation practice group head for Bank One Corporation in Chicago. Her responsibilities include providing legal counsel to all Bank One affiliates, managing inside and outside counsel in Bank One litigation, reporting on litigation to senior management, regulators, and outside auditors, and establishing the litigation reserve for the corporation. In addition, Ms. Lepri provides legal counsel on interdisciplinary risk management efforts for the corporation,
working frequently with the compliance, audit, security, and corporate investigation departments as well as lawyers in other practice groups at Bank One.

Ms. Lepri’s previous positions at Bank One include senior counsel in the litigation practice group and chief in-house counsel of First Chicago NBD’s credit card affiliate. She joined McDermott, Will & Emery following graduation from law school and became a partner there, concentrating her practice in commercial and trust litigation.

Ms. Lepri is a member of the Illinois bar and the Northern District of Illinois trial bar. She is a member of the ABA and a past chair of the Consumer Credit Committee of the Chicago Bar Association.

Ms. Lepri received her AB summa cum laude and JD, cum laude from the Loyola University of Chicago.

**Melissa R. Margulies**

Melissa R. Margulies is litigation counsel for Quest Diagnostics Incorporated, a Fortune 500 corporation and the largest clinical laboratory in the United States. Her responsibilities include providing litigation counsel to the organization, managing professional liability and commercial litigation, and overseeing the development and use of the litigation team’s internet-based e-billing and matter management system.

Prior to joining Quest Diagnostics, Ms. Margulies was an associate in the litigation department of Buchanan Ingersoll LLP, where she represented major corporations and small to mid-size businesses in a wide variety of disputes in both state and federal courts.

Ms. Margulies received a BA from Franklin & Marshall College and is a graduate of Temple University School of Law.
Collaboration in Managing Litigation:
Lessons of the First Five Years

Agenda

- Mike Curreri
  - Overview of collaborative effort: ’96-2002
  - Technology and cultural challenges and responses
- Jim Barry
  - The Mobile experience
  - The International Paper experience
  - Relationship to e-billing/ financial data management
- Julie Lepri
  - Bank One experience
  - Importance of proper implementation
  - The in-house cultural initiative
- Melissa Margulies
  - Quest Diagnostics experience
  - Getting law firms to participate in a shared effort
- All
  - Demonstration of technology features that help make collaboration happen
Concept and Benefits

- Reduce reinventing the wheel
- Obtain better results from teamwork
- Expand “corporate knowledge”
- Reduce repetitive communications
- Make information portable
- Take advantage of search and retrieval technology tools
- Manage individual matters better
- See the forest: trend analysis and REAL management of matters

History of Collaboration 101

- Counsel Connect
  - Not client- or matter- centric
- TrialNet
  - Wal-Mart; Beverly; Columbia HCA; CNA…
  - ABA TechShow: One of five most important advances to legal community
  - Web-based
  - NOT:
    - Integrated with matters
    - Capable of automatic sharing from matters
    - All info shared at broadest level
  - Enforcement: Extensive outside counsel guidelines
History of Collaboration 101

- Dot.com’s come and go
  - LegalAnywhere
  - Niku
- Non-legal focused collaboration
  - E-Rooms
  - West
  - Using extensive consultation to make fit

Reality Strikes: Pitfalls

- Changing culture
  - Claim that information belongs to outside counsel
  - Excuses about confidentiality
  - Typing is for secretaries
  - I’m the best; no benefit in sharing
- Policing difficult
  - Saving info was not automatic
  - Not working in own matter
  - Not driven by workflow designed to match specific type of matter
History of Collaboration 101

- Merging modern technologies
  - The TyMetrix experience
    - Built upon web-based matter management platform
    - Automated sharing
    - Integrated with MS Office, but usable with WordPerfect, Adobe
    - Complete control over security of every item
    - Integrated with e-billing and financial reporting features
  - The conversion of other matter management systems to allow use…
    - Through a browser
    - Sometimes over the Internet

The Mobil Experience

- Goals
- Project design and planning
- Results
- Lessons learned
International Paper Experience

• Nature of project
  – E-billing
  – Matter management
  – Collaboration
• Implementation
  – Conversion from old systems
  – Designing workflow
  – Designing document, data, contact and calendar management features

Working with outside counsel

• Outside counsel guidelines
• Case assignments
• Virtual file cabinet for matters
  – Example: Asbestos litigation
• Workflow engine
  – Notifications
  – Recordation of events/progress
• Budgeting/ planning/ assessing
• Tying utilization to performance evaluations
### Bank One Experience

- Data conversion issues
- Importance of workflow design
- In-house organization and buy-in
- Importance of implementation to management goals
- Utilization by in-house personnel
- Integration into financial management information
- Report generation

### Quest Diagnostics Experience

- Implementing outside firms
  - Communicating importance
  - Using RFPs
  - Clear guidelines
  - Follow-up
- Calendar management as collaboration
- Document sharing
- Collaborative case assessments, budgeting and planning
Summary

• Huge potential benefits
  – Better results
  – Fewer hours for the same function
  – Financial / business treatment through information and metrics
  – Significantly enhanced communications

• Challenges
  – Cultural change for outside counsel
  – Systems change for in-house personnel
  – Integration of financial, e-billing and matter management information is complex
  – Configuration to the way your company actually operates is a must

• Technology does now offer the tools to make it all work
Teamwork Functions

ACCA's 2002 ANNUAL MEETING
LEADING THE WAY: TRANSFORMING THE IN-HOUSE PROFESSION

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# Teamwork Functions

## Collaborating team members

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<td></td>
<td>Michael Curren</td>
<td>Managing Attorney</td>
<td>Acme Incorporated</td>
<td>804-740-2795</td>
<td><a href="mailto:m.curren@ymetrix.com">m.curren@ymetrix.com</a></td>
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<td>Craig Randles</td>
<td>Managing Attorney</td>
<td>Acme Incorporated</td>
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<td>Paralegal</td>
<td>Acme Incorporated</td>
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<td>310 <a href="mailto:kcampsau@ymetrix.com">kcampsau@ymetrix.com</a></td>
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<td>Managing Attorney</td>
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<td>utsche Gopner</td>
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<td>315.872.7746</td>
<td><a href="mailto:olgoopner@ymetrix.com">olgoopner@ymetrix.com</a></td>
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Teamwork Functions

HAMPDEN, SS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT
OF THE TRIAL COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 00-0000

JOHN SMITH, SR., ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE ESTATE OF JAY SMITH,
Plaintiff,

v.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND
MEDICAL CENTER, JAMES JONES,
M.D., and HARVEY ROBERTS, M.D.,
Defendants.

August 2002

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Teamwork Functions

Journal Entry

Entry Properties

Type*: Reference to document
Subject*: Slide Exhibits
Entry*: The slides exhibits have been added to the Exhibits folder in the Document Tab. NOTE: Exhibit 2 may have significant importance.

[Options: OK, Cancel, Send mail]
Teamwork Functions

UTC Asbestos

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In a deposition in the Manfield v. Celotex matter, taken on Jan 24, 2002, Dr. Adelson admitted that he does not know anything about the pathology of asbestos and cannot count fibers, and that even if he could, it wouldn't mean anything to him.

Teamwork Functions

Quick Search Results

Results 1 to 11

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